

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Doug Hendricks <ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us>
Subject: [6301] "38 Special Progress"
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19961212120833.2d5fb154@telis.org>

Guys here is the latest update (10:15 AM PST, 12-12-96) on the progress of the "38 Special" 30 Meter Transceiver project from NorCal. We have built and tested 4 of the original prototype boards. Minor problems were noted and Ori and Dave Fifield have worked out fixes for all of them. Ori has made the corrections on the board, and sent the files to the proto house Tuesday night at 2:00 AM. We should get boards back Friday, and will build the second run this weekend. This one should be a go, with no problems. Monday, we will order the production run of 500 boards from the same house that does the boards for Wilderness Radio, so you know that they will be very high quality. We have 230 prepaid orders at this time, and the article has not even been printed in QRPP and Qrp Quarterly yet.

We originally planned on doing 200 kits for the first run, thinking that it would take about 4 or 5 weeks to sell those out. Wrong. Jim has been flooded with orders, and we have been on the phone almost daily working out the details. I have placed orders for parts to take the original run to 500, as we must provide kits to all members who want them, as we did make the offer. Don't worry about placing an order, it will be filled. The first 200 kits are kitted and ready to go. We expect delivery of the production boards on Jan. 6 so shipping will start soon after. That is providing there are no unforeseen problems. Orders will be shipped in the order received. It is a good thing that I get 2 weeks off for Christmas Break, as I have a feeling that I know what I will be doing.

There have been questions about the frequency coverage on the rig. Ori came to me with the design, and we did tests using several different values for the inductor in the VX0. With a value of 4.7 uH, we got coverage nominally of 10.112 to 10.132. With 6.8 uH, we got coverage of 10.097 to 10.122. Rather than produce a kit that would enable out of band coverage, we opted to go with the 4.7 uH inductor. The RIT mod that Dave Fifield has done gives him coverage of 10.102 - 10.125, using the 4.7 uH inductor, which is perfect. Dave is the only one who has tried this mod, so we don't know if it will be representative. You will have to test your rig. That is the beauty of this kit. IT is designed to be hacked. We want you to try things, to experiment and to learn. With this in mind, we will include an extra T37-2 toroid in every kit, so that you will be able to go to Radio Shack and buy all the parts needed to do the IRF510 5 Watt mod. We think that almost everyone will try this. The one stumbling block was the toroid, so we decided to include it in the kit.

Guys, it looks like there will soon be hundreds of radios on 10 MHz. with good QRP signals. The 10.106 QRP frequency is often jammed with RTTY signals here in the US, and in fact, the European QRP frequency is 10.116, which is the frequency that NorCal chose to use to provide their 30 meter crystals. I am confident that there will be lots of signals to chase with your "38 Special".

The copyright issue. Guys, we have to copyright our material. If we don't, anyone can come along and use our work. Ori, Dave, Jim and I have hundreds of hours in this project. Ori is the originator, he owns the copyright, and he gets to say who gets to use it. He has very graciously given NorCal the exclusive rights to produce the kits for 1 year. That is at NO compensation to him, with the understanding that NorCal produce the kits at a minimum cost to enable all club members to build the project as cheaply as possible. We have done that, and are quite satisfied that \$25 is a tremendous bargain for the "38 Special". It has 100 parts, a double sided plated through, soldermasked, silkscreen professionally produced board, and an instruction manual. You will be amazed at what you are getting for the price.

But, think what could happen if we did not copyright. Someone takes the info and says, hey this is public domain, and starts to do a kit. All of the work that the "38 Special" team has done is uncompensated and someone gets a product for "free". That is not right. We also copyright to give us control. The schematic that is on the NorCal web page was put there so that you could have an idea of what the "38 Special" was. It does not show the mods, it does not show the final schematic, because Ori and Dave have made tremendous improvements in the original design, improvements that were made possible because we have gone to the expense of doing intermediate prototype boards, rather than rushing to production. By the way, each step in the prototype board process costs several hundred dollars, but is definitely worth it in the end.

Jerry Parker spent many hours redrawing the schematic so that it would fit on the page. He is not going to redo it, as the purpose of the schematic was to show Ori's work and give you an idea of what the 38 Special is. The complete, final schematic will be in the kit along with the final information for the mods. It has several improvements that Dave and Ori spent many hours working on. Several of you have asked for parts lists for the mods. They will be posted when we are absolutely sure that we have them finalized. We also want you to try various mods on your own. It is important that you post to the list and also send to Jerry Parker for posting on the NorCal page. Jerry's email address is jparker@fix.net, please share your work with the rest of us.

This has been a fun project. All of us, Ori, Dave, Jim and I want to say thank you for your patience and thank you for your support. Our payoff will be when you post or write your experiences for the rest of us to share. Have fun.

In order to answer the queries from the new readers of the list. "38 Special" 30 Meter Superhet CW Transceiver kits can be ordered from NorCal. Send \$25 plus \$3 shipping and handling for US addresses, \$5 shipping and handling DX, (make checks or money orders out to Jim Cates, NOT NorCal), US funds only to:

Jim Cates
3241 Eastwood Rd.
Sacramento, CA
95821

Note that the kit includes board and board mounted parts. It does

not include controls and connectors, nor does it include case or parts for mods. There are provisions on the board for a 5 Watt power amp, RIT, Improved crystal filter, and even space for the TiCK keyer, which is \$5 for the programmed chip from Embedded Research.
72, Doug, KI6DS

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: "Chris Doherty, N3UVR" <doherty@scranton.com>
Subject: [6261] (Fwd) RE: W1AW sked changes
Message-ID: <199612120357.WAA11032@ns1.scranton.com>

----- Forwarded Message Follows -----
From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Dale Anderson <dalea@artemis.fc.hp.com>
Subject: [6262] 2m Transverter Kits?
Message-ID: <9612120409.AA27540@artemis.fc.hp.com>

Hi All,

Is anyone aware of a manufacturer of HF->2m transverter kits? Like Ten-Tec's SSB-CW 6-meter transverter but for 2m? Inquiring minds want to know..

Tnx es 72/73,
-Dale, KB0VCC
Fort Collins, CO
QRP-L #91 / CQC #251

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Dave.Ackrill@westwood45.powergen.co.uk
Subject: [6278] 30M CW
Message-ID: <961212092258Z*/G=Dave/S=Ackrill/O=westwood45/PRMD=POWERGEN/ADMD=CWMAIL/C=GB@MHS>

Where has everyone on 30M gone?

Just got my rig back from the shop where I was trying to sell it, (no one interested this side of Christmas and the new year) so am back on for a while. I've only got a 30M dipole left up but despite camping

out on 10.116MHz I've only managed one Novice in Ossett (about 5 miles away) and an Estonian. Both nice friendly contacts and very enjoyable but in two evenings of listening and calling CQ hardly a stunning hit rate....

I'm not necessarily looking for DX, although I did hear a JA the other morning, just a few contacts. Preferably QRP to QRP. So what time do people look on 30M and do they check 10.116? (10.106 has been far too noisy at this end).

Is there anybody out there on 30M, or should I have left the rig up for sale just in case someone wanted a late Christmas present? (up until now I've tended to use the TS850S for transverting to 6M, from present experience there was more activity on that band - even when quiet HI!)

Please have a look on 30M, it's a lot less crowded than some of the bands.

Cheers de Dave (G0DJJA)

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Subject: [6298] 38 Special VX0
Message-ID: <961212133456.20206eb0@cayman.vf.mmc.com>

Ori, you wrote, in part:

>I bet that the mechanical response of the crystal outside its
>resonance frequency is a subject of many research papers...
>now, that is what sets engineering apart from research, making
>things work even when there is no precise formula or model.
>In fact, what we call 'professional experience' refers more
>often to intuition and good judgement regarding a given subject
>than to the superior math skills.
>Build the VX0 circuit on a prototype board, vary the circuit
>components and operating conditions and observe the results.
>This will probably teach you more than all "popular" articles
>combined.

Good stuff on VX0s and you are right.

But there is a little more work needed for *reproducible* designs.

Your learning increases dramatically when you build the fifth or

sixth *identical* circuit with different components.

Any good ham can make one of almost anything work, but it takes talent and experience to design something that will work on the hundredth copy as well as on the original - particularly when it comes to RF and, more particularly, when it comes to VXO's!

I wish you good fortune with the 38 Special. I'm anxiously waiting to see if my order made the cut for the first 200...

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

work: jeverhart@cayman.vf.mmc.com
hoem: n2cx@voicenet.com

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Jim Hydzik <congress@magpage.com>
Subject: [6304] 50 States..FSFD update + we want >You<
Message-ID: <199612121859.NAA11268@alaska.magpage.com>

Hello Fellow Fun Seekers,

The signup for State volunteers is going very well and only a few holes need plugged. To help activate more bands we can use additional operators in every state and you can pick the band AND time for that one day your state is scheduled.

So if you love 80, or 30, 17 or 20M, and can put in an hour or three (all day if you like), just hit that reply icon and let me know what state you're in. I'll fire back the state's date for your calendar and get up with you before that date to see which bands and times YOU want to run.

It's easy, and it will be fun. Think of it as everyone's chance to be 'Fox for a day'.

CU Soon, Jim K3QIO Delaware
Email: congress@magpage.com

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: wylde@nccn.net (Grover Cleveland, K7TP)

Subject: [6252] Backpacker II Revisited - Collectors Take Note
Message-ID: <v02130502aed51acd81f8@[205.139.74.178]>

Although technology and design may have passed the venerable Backpacker II by in the four years since it was introduced, I nonetheless had always wanted one and recently bought a used 30m rig. I contacted the designer, K5BDZ, bought a conversion kit for 40 meters, and just finished tweaking and peaking.

In a nutshell, I am very, very impressed with what a really good d-c receiver can do. When Mike Bryce reviewed the rig in the October 1993 issue of 73 magazine, he said "Signals seem to POP out of a noiseless background. There are no birdies to contend with and no phase noise from a PLL to get in the way." He was absolutely right. This radio seems to hear signals that other radios do not.

The case is a bit larger than an Explorer but lighter and very well built. The receive current is only 30 mA. QSK is superb. There is a modification for about 3.5 watts output installed in mine as well as a Curtis keyer (an option with the original radio).

Collectors should note that Tejas still has five* of these rigs in stock at a very reduced price and can be purchased for 40 or 30 meters. Bandkits are available for other bands. If you have the inclination to have one on the shelf now is the time. But don't let it sit there - this is a great radio to operate.

[No connection with Tejas but I am a contented owner.]

73 and Happy Holidays to all,

Grover K7TP

p.s. Tejas is Bill K5BDZ in Dallas, Texas

* Actually there are only going to be four left because I'm going to buy another one and put it on 17 meters.

Grover's Tiny Little Signature File for Those With Emaciated Mail Readers
K7TP (ex WT6P), archaeominiferroequinologist, nerd.

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996

From: aa7uf@juno.com (Gerald L Marsh)
Subject: [6274] Copyright
Message-ID: <19961211.231658.3414.0.AA7UF@juno.com>

The originator of an original, creative work has a right of ownership (copyright) for that work. In recent years it has not been necessary to use the word Copyright or circle-C to protect that right, but their use strengthens one's claim in cases of infringement (the violator cannot say - Oh, I thought it was "public domain").

Public Domain is when the owner of the work gives up ownership essentially to anyone/everyone. Anyone can make use of a public domain work without concern of infringement. The public domain work can become a part of another work which is copyrighted and can even be sold.

The owner of a may put whatever conditions they want on their work. When you "buy" software, you really don't own it, you only own the rights to use as specified by the owner in the "license". Even when software is "given" to you as, for example, the JUNO mail program, the ownership/control of the program remains with the originator. In the case of JUNO, they say you may freely "give" it to your friends. You may not, however, sell it, or incorporate it into any product for commercial use without further permission. You also have not been granted the right to use it with anything but the JUNO email host computers.

The essential element here is that the copyright owner controls the use of the work and may prescribe whatever limitations they want on its use/reproduction.

Posting something which is copyrighted on the Internet is no different than offering it for sale in a store, or even "giving" it away. The owner still controls its use. The same is true of a book or magazine. When you buy it, you do not buy the ownership of the works contained within. You may not legally copy it and sell it for example, in most cases.

So it is perfectly legitimate (though perhaps hard to enforce) for someone to post something on the Internet and specify the uses to which it may be put. If you want to be legal, you must abide by those limitations.

BTW, it is a separately enforceable statutory offence to remove a copyright notice from a work that has it on it, so if you do reproduce a copyrighted work (with the owner's permission), be sure to include the copyright notice unless they tell you otherwise.

Jerry Marsh - AA7UF

Olympia Washington

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Dennis Marandos <k1lgq@dennis.mv.com>
Subject: [6308] Dues DO, Don'ts Won't!
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19961212211704.002f53cc@pop-lnh.mv.net>

I know that there a lot of activities going on in your life during this holiday season but you can't overlook this very special happening. The New England QRP Club membership is open between September to December, so if you're not on the mailing list by December 31, you won't receive the January issue of 72. Membership is for one year and dues are still ten dollars for both new members or renewals. (Dues are fifteen dollars for our friends out of the USA.) The January issue is packed with a lot of the great ideas, tech. talk, humor, and human interest stories you love to read and hear about. Don't miss being a part of it and make sure you're due are in.

For renewal membership:

Bill Studley - AA10C
133 Baboosic Lake Road
Merrimack, New Hampshire 03054

For new membership into the New England QRP Club:

William McNally - AE1D
7 Blueberry Road
Windham, NH 03087

Have a great holiday and I'll be listening for you on the air....

Dennis Marandos - K1LGQ - Nashua, NH
Editor - The New England QRP Club newsletter

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: DZAK@aol.com
Subject: [6240] dvfo upgrade
Message-ID: <961211194218_1040326075@emout15.mail.aol.com>

hi all

S&S engineering now has available an upgrade for the DVFO (digital vfo). the upgrade provides for ten nonvolatile offsets. the offsets are done by

simply entering the desired dial frequency and then the desired vfo frequency. once entered, the offsets are selected via the shaft encoder.

the upgrade also provides software calibration. the calibration value is entered in parts per million (ppm) and then corrects the output frequency. the calibration value is also in non-volatile memory.

(the DVFO tunes 1hz to 16 Mhz in 1hz steps)

the upgrade (DVFO option 1) is \$32.95 postpaid in USA.

thanx and hope no one minds the bandwidth.

dick ka3zow s&s engineering

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996

From: ji3m@maxwell.com (James R. Duffey)

Subject: [6311] Explanation fo Solar Indices

Message-ID: <v02130500aed62a95a670@[192.31.66.229]>

Mike, KD0FX, asked in a post on Tuesday December 10;

"Could someone tell me, in short, simple terms,
what these indices mean, and how to apply them to our everyday QRP life?"

Sure - To first order these explanations should suffice;

The Solar Flux is related to the number of sunspots, which in turn drives the density of ionization of the Earth's ionosphere. Recall that the ionosphere is what radio signals bounce off so that longer than line of sight radio propagation can take place. The higher the number, the higher the maximum usable frequency, that is the higher the number the more likely a high frequency band such as 10 M will be open.

The K and A indices are a measure of the Earth's geomagnetic activity. The K index is an indication of such activity over the last 3 hours, the A index over the last day. The Earth's magnet field effects the ionosphere as the magnetic field exerts a field on the ions that make up the ionosphere. In general low K values, 0-2, and Low A values 0-15 generally represent quiet geomagnetic conditions which translate to quite radio conditions with little path loss or disturbance. The higher values of these indices, K can range to 9, and A to 100 or greater, indicate active geomagnetic activity to geomagnetic storm conditions. Large values are accompanied by high path losses, high modulation of the signal, Aurora in the higher latitudes. Propagation can be particularly good after these storms have passed.

By comparing the relative values of the K and A indices, simple propagation predictions can be made. A high K indice with a low A indice generally means that conditions are going to get poorer, while high K values and high A values probably mean that conditions will remain poor, and low K values

and high A values generally mean that conditions will improve.

In short with high flux numbers look for the high bands to be open. Accompanied by low K and A values, signals should be very good. With high A and K values expect signals to be weak and wavery. With extremely high values of the A and K indices look for Aurora, get on 6 or 2 and point your beam north.

QRP operators are concerned with making the most with low power, so high Solar Flux values means that one should go to the highest band open, and low A and K values mean that the QRP operator will generally find good operating conditions. Conversely, do not be disappointed if you have trouble making contacts with medium to high A and K indices, no matter what the solar flux is.

The sun has a rotational period of roughly 27 days, varying from 35 days at the equator to 35 days at the poles, so one can expect (roughly) that conditions will repeat over the 27 day period. When particularly good or bad conditions exist you may wish to go to your calender and mark these dates 25 to 30 days in the future.

This is an abbreviated discourse on these indices and how they effect propagation. Solar and Ionospheric scientists will find much lacking in my explanation. I apologize for the over simplifications I have made. But it will give you a start in understanding these values and how they can give you insight into your operating. By the way these values are announced on WWV at 18 minutes after every hour. More detailed and accurate information on these indices and how they effect propagation can be found in the ARRL Handbook, the ARRL Antenna Handbook, The RSGB handbook, and Moxon's "HF Antennas for All Locations".

A good propagation program will use these indices to help you predict propagation. You may wish to look into ionocap, voacap, one of the many variations of minimuf, or another propagation program as good tools to determine how these indices effect your propagation. Minimuf is a good place to start as it only uses the Solar Flux, but a few minutes spent with it can be valuable.

As I said above, the answers to this and other frequently asked questions on the list can be found in the Handbook. If you don't have a copy you should get one. At \$35 a copy these days they are not cheap, but you can get a discount bookstore like Borders or Bookstar to order you one cheap, or you can buy a used copy at a ham fest for a few bucks. Almost every Library has a copy or can get you one through interlibrary loan. I use mine at least once a week and I think that most experienced hams use theirs regularly. The Handbook is not perfect, and I have a few things that I would like them to change, but it is an excellent reference and a good place to start in getting information.

What follows is not a flame, just some advice to those who have a question and want to learn about a subject, rather than just getting an answer. There is a difference. Try looking it up first in your Handbook or other reference book. Then if you still have the question ask it on the list. Chances are, looking it up it will lead to questions that can't be answered simply in the Handbook, and these are the generally the most interesting topics for discussion on the list.

This was longer than intended. Now use what you have learned to have better contacts. - Duffey KK6MC/5

James R Duffey KK6MC/5 DM65
30 Casa Loma Road
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Marshall Emm <75230.1405@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [6296] Fox Hunt Prizes
Message-ID: <961212183618_75230.1405_HHB32-2@CompuServe.COM>

I've convinced my board of directors (namely, myself) that Milestone Technologies should donate a couple of prizes. The board has agreed, and Chuck has acknowledged, that the following two prizes will also be awarded in the Fox Hunt:

1. To the UN-upgraded N/T+ Fox achieving the LOWEST score, a copy of CODEMASTER V.
2. To the N/T+ Fox hunter achieving the HIGHEST score (or second highest if the highest scoring hunter is also (1) above), a keyer kit .

The keyer kit is a new line that we have picked up and is one of the greatest bargains around-- watch for an announcement here soon or visit our Web site (www.mtechnologies.com/mthome).

73
Marshall
AA0XI

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: kb0rol@juno.com (Bradley L Mugleston)
Subject: [6268] Fox Report - Novice Tech+
Message-ID: <19961211.225348.6575.6.kb0rol@juno.com>

Well here is my report for tonight (November 11th local) Novice Tech Fox Hunt. I'll tell ya the NOISE was terrible where I ended up - there were a LOT of people out there in the lower end of the Novice band. I wanted to be around 7.112 -noise wasn't bad there but there was a QSO going on and on and on so I moved around until I found an open spot where I hoped someone would find me - I settled on 7.108 this being a GREAT spot for the eastern fox (this is a nice looking fox with thick red silky fur - moves real quick but has great ears and can pick the sound of a flea in a factory - anyway in Colorado its a noise spot but at least is was open.

Here is my results and THANKS everyone for trying.

0214 W7CMY - slow down PLEASE between the noise and your speed all I got was your call.

0229 K5UP 579 OK Glen 31

0238 KB2???

0246 K5ON 579 NM Gary 770 I hope this in New Mexico - I need that state!!!

0251 KC1UB --- Sorry I lost this one too.

0302 K6VNX 559 CA ARLEN 5W

0310 KA5T 339 ONT TX 79 Is there an Ontario Texas? I sure hope so.

0313 WA0CXW 559 MI - I don't know if this one was a hunter - way too much noise.

0329 W1HUE 559 ID Larry 28

0334 KC7NEV 449 AZ Joe 191 - I copied this the first time and it sounded like he wanted a repeat so I asked Joe what he wanted and he sent me everything again. THANKS FOR THE EXTRA EFFORT. You sure have a BUZZ in your tone. Once I got use to it coping you was easy.

0356 W7HDZ or BDZ or ?DZ We spent about 10 min just getting that much of the call right. I also got MAC or maybe I was just hungary for a burger Nothing else looked like a possible word.

Well another one down, and my last one for the month. Thanks everyone for the TIME and Effort - I know the only way to repay you is to upgrade so I'm working on it - next test around here is 1/11/97 - actually there is one Saturday but My bosses boss decided to have a Brunch during it -

just what I wanted on my day off. Why not can work and have a party.

Thanks again. And Chuck can you really operate a radio or is it all voice???

Brad Mugleston - KBØROL
Colorado QRP Club # 170, QRP-L #316, ARRL
QTH - Aurora, CO - DM79oq
KBØROL@JUNO.COM
BMUG@GWL.COM

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
Subject: [6295] Fox Scores
Message-ID: <199612121817.LAA13055@dancris.com>

I have posted Chuck's list of Fox Scores to my page..you will now find your call under the proper call area rather than lumping all the '7' calls under '7', for example.

The vanity call program is going to give us all fits when trying to figure out where everyone is working from while at home. Makes a current callbook invaluable, hey?

73,

Bob KI7MN Chandler, AZ <http://www.dancris.com/~ki7mn>
NorCal #1221 ARCI #8918 Qrp-l #271 CQC #274 AK QRP #30 ARRL

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [6265] FS:Norcal 40
Message-ID: <961212044615_70511.3041_IHD52-2@CompuServe.COM>

Gang:

Have FS an original Norcal 40. Excellent condition, very well constructed. Has the beautiful two-tone case. Gets almost 4 full watts out. One of the quietest receivers I have heard. And as we all know, the rig is very small and light-weight and draws only about 15ma on receive.

So why am I selling such a fabulous rig?--have two, only need one.

BTW, the construction manual includes hints for modifying the rig for other bands. Looks like it would be easy/simple to do, though I have not

tried it myself.

Such a deal for \$95.00 including shipping in continental USA.

Any takers?

72/73,

--Doc/K0EVZ QRP-L #861

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996

From: ji3m@maxwell.com (James R. Duffey)

Subject: [6313] Handbook Prices

Message-ID: <v02130501aed63ac9754e@[192.31.66.229]>

Chuck - You hit the nail on the head.

>James Duffey hasn't bought a new Handbook in some time. :-)

My wife works in Albuquerque's finest bookstore, Page One, and knows that I will always be happy with a copy of the latest Handbook as a gift. Nice huh? She gets a discount and her paycheck almost covers the rest of the family's book purchases :-)

> Everyone on the list should have one that was printed in the last 3 years
>since the major redo. IMHO. A buck well spent.

38 of them well spent, but the old ones have most of the basic information, and an old handbook is better than no handbook. If you give one of your old ones to a new ham you will be doing him, yourself, and the Amateur Radio Service a big favor.

When I was a kid the local Carnegie library had ARRL handbooks going back quite a ways. I spent a lot of time reading all of them. In those days, 1965, the price of a new one was \$4 to \$5 as I recall. I used to drool over the \$2.50 and lower price on the old ones. On my last trip back home I visited the new library and they were all gone, a victim of shelf cleaning by librarians who apparently have no respect for history, nostalgia or hours of ones youth spent in a musty library. The university library here has many of the old ones, and when I first saw them it took me back to my youth.

Study the propagation chapter and discover my mistakes and over

simplifications. - Duffey KK6MC/5

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From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: kd1jv@juno.com (Steven Weber)
Subject: [6294] HB: rig in a tool box
Message-ID: <19961212.131046.4863.2.KD1JV@juno.com>

It looks like this idea of putting a rig in a tool box is starting to catch on...here's some more thoughts on the idea..

With the 38 special and Rainbow tuner hitting the streets soon, this might be a good rig to make portable. Plus, when someone asks what's in the tool box, you can say with a straight face, "I'm packing a 38 Special". They will then either walk away quickly or have you arrested!

I'd start by cutting a sheet of aluminum to fit inside the top of the tool box, where the tool tray would go. You might have to make some angle brakets to hold the plate in place. To this you would mount the circuit board, drill the holes for the controls, jacks and speaker.

It would be a good idea to completely sheild the circuit board and antenna tuner, if you use one. You can simply cut some thin aluminum stock (such as that used in roofing flashing), that is then folded over into U shaped cover, and bolt that over the board(s).

```
----- top plate

--- board ---
  1 ----- 1   sheild
  1-----1
```

If you are real craffty, you could make a tuned speaker, ala the CW Cannon (remember that thread?) , by putting some PVC pipe under the speaker.(some experimentation required)

Four wood dowels screwed into the tool box lid, near the corners, could be used to wind the antenna onto. The space in the middle would be used to hold your code key and earphones.

There should be enough room in the bottom of the box to hold a gell cell or ni-cads and an AC supply or battery charger.

The actual constuction details will vary with your perticular requirements, skill level, matterials at hand, type of rig and inginuity.

I haven't done this yet. This is a public domain Idea, if you actually build a rig into a tool box, you are required to tell us all how you did it. And you have to write it up, take pictures and send it to one of the QRP newsletters. The first person to do this will get a nice reward, your name in print!

de KD1JV, Steve in NH

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
Subject: [6297] Holiday Gifts and FYBO
Message-ID: <199612121846.LAA13673@primenet.com>

Howdy Folks,

'Tis the gift-giving season, and friends/family are at this very moment trying to decide what to get for you. They're leaning toward the classic velvet painting of "Dogs Playing Poker". And since they visit you often, you'll be obligated to display the monstrosity prominently. Possibly in the entryway. Simulated gold frame and all.

How can you prevent such a tragedy? FYBO to the rescue!
Think of all the things you may need! Do you have a reliable, easy-to-read thermometer to place next to your rig? How about a well-insulated thermos for your caffienated fluid of choice? A pair of warm gloves you can actually operate a keyer with? Sure you'll get funny looks at the store trying it out, but tell 'em the alien invasion is coming any day, and you won't be passing THEIR traffic if they don't act nice to you. :-)

So start your list and get it to your loved ones ASAP.
Otherwise I'll be shaking my head when I visit your QTH and

see that velvet canine objet d'art....

This has been a public service announcement by Friends of FYBO
and the Society for the Prevention of Black Velvet Paintings.

Happy Holidays de KC7NEV,

-Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPions (Phoenix)

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Mel Evans <101366.3072@compuserve.com>
Subject: [6307] How I became a Ham -longish!
Message-ID: <961212210008_101366.3072_JHP172-2@CompuServe.COM>

Hi there,

My tuppence worth.

My Dad got me hooked in the 50's. He had held an "AA" type licence here in the UK. This was an "Artificial Aerial" licence, which allowed experimental tX into a shielded dummy load. He never up-graded to a full licence, after my mother died around that time, he kind of lost interest himself, but continued to help me.

We bought an ex-army indicator scope unit, green screen, long persistence picture, and we followed the directions in "Camm's Comic" as Practical Wireless magazine was known at the time, after it's editor, F.J.Camm. I suppose F.J. was the UK equivalent to Hugo Gernsback at the time. He published, edited or wrote for a myriad of electrical, radio, model, and mechanical engineering magazines. Anyhow, we built ourselves a 6ins TV set using the tube and I remember it's MU-METAL screen. TV worked fine on the only channel we could get, BBC, but we were always tickled by the after image when a character on screen moved and his image was still there for up to half a second or so!

Next we got some USAF surplus. A pair of throat mikes. These we converted into a guitar pick-up, (it was rock 'n roll time folks). We never did get the home made tape recorder working properly with the other one. We got most of the electronics going, but we were using a wind-up gramophone motor for the drive (I kid you not!), and the speed tended to vary just a bit

Then I got my hands on an R1155 and a T 1154. Brits will know the rigs, a pair intended for use in the Lancaster and Wellington Bombers of WWII. The RX was a 19 in rack unit, about 11 in high, and the TX was at least twice that, with six large coloured tuning knobs on it, red yellow, blue etc. I was hooked. Listened to my first Jazz on VOA, found Radio Canada, been a listener ever since, wondered if Mr. Popov really invented radio as claimed by Radio Moscow?

I always considered myself a ham of sorts, but did nothing about a ticket until the illegal (UK) CB boom in the late 70's. Bought one, fitted in the car, then thought, there's more to this than "Hi Good Buddy" and found a ham radio shop. Next thing was studying for licence. Background in 'tronics and the like from work helped, and passed in 81. Been trying ever since to get above 8 wpm in code, not succeeded. Now a registered instructor with the RSGB, been Prez of local club etc. etc. Some of my pupils at Novice class I started off and GOT THROUGH cw TEST AT 5 WPM are now using cw at 15/20 wpm on the bands.

Been a QRP'r since 82, met George Burt, GM30XX and was instantly converted by the enthusiasm of the man. If you ever get the chance to see some of the gear George has built, stand by to be enthralled. The quality is
S U P E R B! ! !

So there you go, more recently, I'm collecting a small selection of Heath stuff, I'm QTHR in the International and UK callbooks, you can send me your surplus Heath stuff if you like, donations acceptable. HI HI

72 and 73 de Mel
GM6JAG
Edinburgh, Scotland UK
Home of the last HW9

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: w8lrm@qtm.net
Subject: [6300] How I got started ,Short Bio
Message-ID: <199612121905.0AA14110@garcon.qtm.net>

Boy, where to start. My dad repaired radios in the 20s and 30s as well as being an electrician. He had learned radio from a ham W8AKR (my initials) in Breedsville Michigan as a youngster in the 20s. From the time I remember, dad had some sort of shop in the basement. Tho dad never got a license, he knew most of the hams in the area and it was inevitable that I would eventually go with him on his frequent visits with them. All those dial lights, tubes and meters were fascinating (I was about 7 or 8 at the time) I guess from that time I wanted to play with radios and dad had a tough time keeping me out of the good stuff. As time went on, he gave me the parts to build a one-tube Regen reciever and eventually a three-tube job. When I got into the 8th grade, a nearby school had a Radio Club and I got hooked. For most of that year, I took the bus once a week to the other school for club meetings. When I entered 9th grade I was able to transfer to the school for 9th thro 12th grade. Our 9th grade science teacher was a ham and taught code and theory to the club

members. No trouble with the theory but the code was a bummer. I didn't give up but never cracked the 13 wpm. I graduated in 1951 but kept in touch with the gang still in school and in the fall of 52, I took one of the younger fellows to Chicago for his test. I took the test too but still didn't make the 13 wpm. They had just started the Novice tests and I had passed enough to qualify. I recieved my novice call WN8LRM in October of 1952. Got my draft notice two weeks later and went off to Korea. When I returned in 57, I took the Tech test and got my old call back as W8LRM. Upgraded to Gen and Adv in September of 1977 and here I am. Code speed is still lousy but I do stumble through it when I can.

During the high school days about as soon as the Hams were allowed back on the air, we discovered Heath Co in Benton Harbor Michigan. Howard Anthony had started getting box-cars full of WW-2 surplus electronics. We spent many a saturday morning there going over the stuff he put up for sale. As a group from the HS radio club, we would help him pack 20# boxes of the things he didn't need to be sold as grab boxes by mail order. When we finished for the morning Howard would load us up with goodies to take back to the club room and we would spend our spare time building and experiment.

As a relult of all that I wound up in communications and radar in the military. When I returned to civilian life I worked at Voice of Music in Benton Harbor Michigan as a tech writer, parts and repair supervisor, technical correspondance and many other things for 15 years. Having all the experience but no formal training, I enrolled in night school and earned an associate degree in electornics technology. I taught for that school for 5 years and went into TV broadcasting for another 13 years. After another short stint on my own, I retired in mid 1994. I am now enjoying retirement and trying to do some of the things put aside for so long.

Thanks and Best wishes for the Holliday Season.....
.....de....W8LRM.....Al

MI-QRP #41 QRP-L #532 QRP-ARCI #6524
G-QRP #4152 NOR-CAL #246 CQC #289 (EN62RE)
>From Southwest Michigans Sunset Coast:
Saint Joseph, Berrien County, Michigan !

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: "Dean T. Miller" <dtmiller@dsmnet.com>
Subject: [6276] HW-9's for sale
Message-ID: <9612120805.AA01199@dsm7.dsmnet.com>

Hi All,

I just ran across these messages on rec.radio.swap.

Maybe someone here is interested ...

From: joel147@aol.com

Well since I still have this HW9 QRP station, I am open to
"Reasonable" offers on it__HW9, Matching P.S., Tuner, Wattmeter/SWRmeter
Have all manuals, almost everything looks close to new. Has Warc pack
and works great.

From: dana@keystone.intergate.net

hi there, i have one of those for sale also. so take care from n4pge

The first guy is JOEL147@aol.com (but put the JOEL in lower case letters)

Please reply to them, not to me.<hi>

Dean

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996

From: Steve Bornstein <sabornsb@freenet.columbus.oh.us>

Subject: [6292] LDG Autotuner Group Buy UPDATE

Message-ID: <Pine.3.07.9612121248.A19075-a100000@login>

G'day All,

The first order of tuners should have been shipped from LDG yesterday.
I am expecting them to arrive here (in Ohio) tomorrow or Monday. I will
ship them ASAP.

SECOND CHANCE BUY

Since I have had a number of requests and inquiries since I submitted the
order I am making up a second order. I would like to close this order at
the end of next week (December 20th) If you would like to order a LDG QRP
Autotuner Kit please notify me via e-mail and send \$91.00 to:

Steven Bornstein K8IDN
475 East North Broadway
Columbus, Ohio 43214

The price includes shipping.

73, Steve K8IDN QRP-L #331

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Dan Keen <70731.722@compuserve.com>
Subject: [6269] MFJ 418 Pocket Trainer
Message-ID: <961212053731_70731.722_EHM74-1@CompuServe.COM>

The new MFJ 418 pocket morse trainer arrived here from the AES mailorder store yesterday. The November _QST_ had full 1997 MFJ catalogue insert, but this new model of trainer also got a full page add all to itself. Perhaps MFJ thinks this new model is going to be a hot seller as compared to the 4 or 5 ho-hum previous models, and compared to everything else in its '97 catalogue.

The main problem with other previous makes and models of trainers, in my opinion, is still there in this new model: there is absolutely no way to set up a custom set of _all_ the numbers, letters, prosigns, and punctuation marks you wish to be familiar with while at the same time excluding the few characters you don't want to know at all.

On this model there are standard subsets, each subset with 5 to 8 characters. You can combine any or all of them. But you cannot for instance set up a character set of all characters except for) % _ You can, however, with a single menu item turn on all the FCC test characters only. It would be nice to throw in SN, AS, and HH as well but you cannot do that without also adding things like : \$;) You can set up CUSTOM sets, but all custom sets are limited to a total of 16 characters and you cannot combine together more than one custom set. You can only combine the standard sets :(

Size is a little bit smaller than a pack of cigarettes or normal AM pocket transistor radio. It really does fit into a shirt pocket. All the menu and operating controls, the volume knob, and the headphone jack are on the top of the unit when looking down at shirt pocket. Easy to see and to get at. The LCD reader is not visible when unit is in the pocket, because its on the front, instead of the top. Besides headphone and LCD, there is a speaker. Tone from 300 to 1000, speed from 3 to 55. There is a master Farnsworth ON/OFF menu item which will force the unit to operate Farnsworth in all modes, or never operate Farns in any mode. Instant on-the-fly speed changes can be done either using Farnsworth or without and the speed will be shown on the bottom line of the LCD, while text is on the top. All MFJ 418 settings are in involatile memory, they won't make unwanted changes with power ON/OFF nor with a battery change.

The menu items are extensive requiring a 16 page manual, but its very easy to use without any reference, because the main menu and submenus read out on in English on the LCD (English only).

Anyhoo AES (mailorder 800 number) has this new item in now.

Dan

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [6248] Need QSL Info
Message-ID: <961212013655_70511.3041_IHD95-1@CompuServe.COM>

Gang:

Just worked G9AQ on 20 (ARK-20 into an inverted vee 28' up fed with 450-ohm line). He gave me a 579 RST, but frankly I missed some data because I couldn't quite keep up with his very high speed CW (probably 35 wpm--still a wee bit too fast for me).

Can anyone send me the QSL routing, along with his other data? Many thanks for the help.

72/73,
--Doc/K0EVZ QRP-L #861

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: "'AB7HI' Stephen Lee" <slee@u.washington.edu>
Subject: [6260] New QRP transceiver (fwd)
Message-ID: <Pine.A41.3.95b.961211195038.106048B-100000@homer27.u.washington.edu>

There's a TenTec group list that apparently has a higher signal ratio than their web site. Here's a tidbit of info on what's coming down the pike. There have been messages to the qrp-l group about the TenTec group buy. The people at TenTec are very good about replying to questions put to them. Enjoy!

Stephen Lee, AB7HI, Tacoma, WA
slee@u.washington.edu

----- Forwarded message -----

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: kd7s@psnw.com (Bill Jones)
Subject: [6247] PIC Training
Message-ID: <199612120129.RAA19340@sierra.psnw.com>

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again I find myself falling behind the technology power curve. I marvel at the TiCK keyer, the KC-1 and KC-2 plus all the other devices using programable chips. Can someone suggest books or other training materials oriented toward self-study?

=====
Bill Jones - KD7S <><
Sanger, California
Reply to kd7s@psnw.com
=====

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Joel Malman <malman@BBN.COM>
Subject: [6250] QRP computer
Message-ID: <199612120158.UAA167573@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Group,

Can someone post the circuit diagram used for keying a TX through a serial port of one of these small computers.

thanks,

/joel wa1qvm (concord, ma)

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: ldg@radix.net (LDG Electronics)
Subject: [6251] QRP Digital Wattmeter
Message-ID: <v01540b00aed50faf9833@[206.62.179.72]>

Hello to everyone,

I am just working up the design of a new digital qrp wattmeter. So far, I've got it giving a simultaneous digital (numeric) readout of the forward and reverse power and swr on a 2 by 16 alpha-numeric LCD. It will autorange between 10 and .001 watts with a minimum resolution of about .0005 watts. It has low power consumption (I'm not finished tweaking that yet) and run

on 12 volts dc.

I'm looking for inputs to the design that other qrpers would like to have in a digital wattmeter. Is it important to have it read peak and average?, how about an RS-232 interface?, and other things like that. I wouldn't mind collecting the data received and sharing it with the group. If there is enough interest, I'll add it to our product line as a kit (of course, publishing all the design details).

Just thought I'd ask for input before making up something that was exactly what you didn't want. You can e-mail direct.

Thanks,
Dwayne Kincaid
WD8OYG

LDG Electronics

Phone: 410-586-2177 Tech Support 5-9 pm EST
Fax: 410-586-8475 <new number> 24 hour
<new e-mail and home page>
e-mail: ldg@radix.net
<http://www.radix.net/~ldg>

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: lve1@inel.gov (Larry V East)
Subject: [6291] QRP Email Overwhelming!
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19961212164751.3ce74c24@eloi>

I'm glad all you folks out there in cyberspace are enjoying all the "how I became a ham" posts -- frankly, I haven't had time to read them. The size of the QRP-L digests this week have been running between 150KB and 250KB -- that's one hellofa lot of text to wade through! This list is getting big and it is certainly everyone's right to post -- but PLEASE keep 'em short, concise and to the point! And please, PLEASE don't quote the entire message to which you are responding (unless it is only a few lines long)! If you want to write a long expose on how you became a ham, how you trained your pet monkey to put up antennas, etc., by all means do it -- and submit it to QST, CQ or some other mag!

"The Net" is not all there is to life, folks...

Just my 2 (binary) bits to add to the QRM. Address all flames to lve@dev.null.

72, Larry W1HUE/7

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996

From: JUKKA AHLGREN <JUKKAA@jypoly.fi>

Subject: [6271] Radio Shack DX-394

Message-ID: <s2afbaec.009@jypoly.fi>

A local ham store here in Finland sells a Radio Shack DX-394 communications receiver. The price is quite low. Is it worth buying for ham/QRP purposes?

Any experience?

Jukka OH6SC/OH8NGF

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996

From: Bill Myers <bmyers@destin.nfds.net>

Subject: [6243] Request for last MARS CW Broadcast

Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19961211190614.0be7abba@destin.nfds.net>

Hi Gang,

Anyone have a copy of the last MARS CW Broadcast, or know where I can find it.

I would like to put it up on the US FISTS Homepage. I will be adding the NMN Coast Guard last message to the page tonight and would like to have this one also.

Thanks for the bandwidth...

72/73

--

Bill Myers KK4KF Grid - EM60rk

FISTS#2390 QRP-L#755 ARCI#9282 scQRP#42 CQC#386

Snail Mail P. O. Box 178 Shalimar, FL 32579

e-mail <bmyers@destin.nfds.net>

homepage <http://destin.nfds.net/~bmyers/>

(Reptiles/Emergency Services/Amateur Radio)
CHECK OUT THE FISTS INTERNATIONAL CW CLUB U. S. HOMEPAGE
<http://n9nvv.qrp.com/~fists> (That's N 9 N V V)

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: rhigh@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [6246] Special event station and "unofficial Fox"
Message-ID: <199612120126.SAA19682@primenet.com>

Don't forget, folks. Friday night, 12/13/96 listen for N0EL on 7040 and
7110 +/- for the
Tri-City Amateur Radio Club annual Christmas, AZ special event station.

QRP only, CW only, and hope to see you all between 1800-1900 MST (0100-0400Z
12/14/96).

Will be using a Heathkit HW-9 and the "new" club beam antenna.

72/73 de Roger N7KT Mesa, AZ Grid DM43cj

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: gsurrency@juno.com (Gary L Surrency)
Subject: [6266] Ten Tec home page
Message-ID: <19961211.221013.9766.1.gsurrency@juno.com>

Hey Bob!

Thanks for pointing out their new home page. I was still looking at their
old one that is in my Bookmarks! Whatta mistake on my part! ;-)

Happy holidays!

72,

Gary Surrency AB7MY
S&S TAC-1 and ARK30
QRP-L #571 Chandler, AZ (near Phoenix) Grid Square DM43BH

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: sassoli@iilwh10.settimo.italtel.it
Subject: [6277] TOKYO HI-POWER QRP RIG
Message-ID: <9612120905.AA07928@ic8u32.settimo.italtel.it>

Hi to all.

Is anyone in the list using the model 750 (I'm not quite sure about this number!) from TOKYO HI-POWER?

It's a portable (hand held) rig for 40, 15 and 6 meters cw and ssb that runs 3 watts and got also extendible antennas.

I'd like to have some impressions of use and technical details about it and how it is priced in the USA.

Thanks, 73 and Merry Christmas de Paolo IK2LNH.

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@enterprise.net>
Subject: [6310] Web site additions
Message-ID: <199612122139.VAA08627@mail.enterprise.net>

Check out my web site for new additions incl

A resistive swr bridge

and there is absolutely loads yet to come, just for you!

Frank G3YCC
<http://homepages.enterprise.net/g3ycc/>

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Jeff Grudin <grudin@pacific.vdbs.com>
Subject: [6303] When is FYB0?
Message-ID: <32B052E1.77A4@pacific.vdbs.com>

What are the rules and dates for FYB0?
Thanks.

--

73 de Jeff AC6KW

These stories help me form a picture of the person behind the callsign.
It's also interesting to see what sparked the persons' interest,
"way back when".

Reading through the big 'ol digests, it's always a nice diversion from
the tech topics (which I also enjoy!).

Keep 'em coming!

72,

Bill Howell
University of Texas at Austin
Performing Arts Center
Electronic Maintenance
voice: (512) 471-1388
bhowell@mail.utexas.edu
N5ALO QRP-L #415

everything is sacred
nothing is serious

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Sjolín@aol.com
Subject: [6275] Re: 2m Transverter Kits?
Message-ID: <961212024459_974702872@emout18.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-12-11 23:23:49 EST, dalea@artemis.fc.hp.com (Dale
Anderson) writes:

<< Is anyone aware of a manufacturer of HF->2m transverter
kits? Like Ten-Tec's SSB-CW 6-meter transverter but
for 2m? Inquiring minds want to know.. >>

Down East Microwave makes a line of transverters for 6 meters up into the Ghz
range. I bought a two meter transverter last month. I bought mine already
assembled but the board looks simple enough. Price for complete kit including
enclosure is \$295. Nice unit. Popular among serious vhf ops.

To request catalog and other information, call 908-996-3584.

73 de Dave, N0IT

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Dale Anderson <dalea@artemis.fc.hp.com>
Subject: [6309] Re: 2m Transverter Kits?
Message-ID: <9612122126.AA12848@artemis.fc.hp.com>

Thanks to everyone who responded to my query.

72 es 73
de Dale, KB0VCC
Fort Collins, CO
QRP-L #91 / CQC #251

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: "Jim Kortge, K8IQY" <jokortge@tir.com>
Subject: [6315] Re: 2m Transverter Kits?
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19961213003835.25470c92@tir.com>

At 09:09 PM 12/11/96 MST, you wrote:

>
> Hi All,
>
> Is anyone aware of a manufacturer of HF->2m transverter
> kits? Like Ten-Tec's SSB-CW 6-meter transverter but
> for 2m? Inquiring minds want to know..
>

>
> Tnx es 72/73,
> -Dale, KB0VCC
> Fort Collins, CO
> QRP-L #91 / CQC #251
>

Try Down East Microwave. Don't have their latest address, but
it shouldn't be too hard to find. I think they make transverter
kits all the way up to 2+GHz, maybe farther. Good stuff!!

72...Jim

Jim Kortge, K8IQY (ex NU8N)		BMHA, NorCal, QRP-L
jokortge@tir.com	__o	Cascade 17/40 SSB

Fenton, MI |_`\
... (*)/(*)

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Kevin Muenzler <muenzlerk@uthscsa.edu>
Subject: [6284] RE: 30 meters dead or alive
Message-ID: <01BBE801.4407E500@170-181-101.ipt.aol.com>

On Wednesday, December 11, 1996 5:34 PM, BParkes@aol.com wrote:
>Howdy, Not sure about 30 mtrs, have not heard much in the last week or so,
>have been getting on the air a little later in the evening, but 40 mtrs is
>short haul (LA from here in San Antonio, TX) but 6 mtrs was booming, sounded
>like a contest, lot of folks exchanging locations. Heard WI, AZ and SC and
>worked TX with 5 watts and a low dipole. Things are looking up!
>
>73 Bruce KA2ZGW San Antonio, TX (but you knew that)
>
>

I've noticed this too. 20-meters and 30-meters have been closing
up early lately. But, I've been hearing longhaul stuff on 40-meters
using a vertical. I've been into South and Central America the past
couple of nights with pretty good signals. I guess it's just
Winter time setting in on the bands.

Kevin, WB5RUE (Floresville, TX)

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Norbert.Heyder@erno.de
Subject: [6279] Re: 30M CW
Message-ID: <9612121116.AA12025@mail-s.erno.de>

Hallo Dave,

I'm qrv each night on 30m(and 40m), checking conds at least!

Did you noticed ZS8IR(Chris, Marion Island) residing on 10.116 last night?

> Where has everyone on 30M gone?

Stay tuned there! The band sounds like VHF at night but few
signals (north/south path) are still there. 1-hop(long-leg) contacts with

qrp-level are always possible!

72/73 de Norbert, DL8BDF

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Kevin Muenzler <muenzlerk@uthscsa.edu>
Subject: [6285] RE: 30M CW
Message-ID: <01BBE801.B7BABAE0@170-181-101.ipt.aol.com>

On Thursday, December 12, 1996 3:19 AM, Dave.Ackrill@westwood45.powergen.co.uk wrote:

>
> Where has everyone on 30M gone?
>
> Just got my rig back from the shop where I was trying to sell it, (no
> one interested this side of Christmas and the new year) so am back on
> for a while. I've only got a 30M dipole left up but despite camping
> out on 10.116MHz I've only managed one Novice in Ossett (about 5 miles
> away) and an Estonian. Both nice friendly contacts and very enjoyable
> but in two evenings of listening and calling CQ hardly a stunning hit
<snip>
> Please have a look on 30M, it's a lot less crowded than some of the
> bands.
>
> Cheers de Dave (G0DJA)

Well Dave, I just think it is Winter setting into the bands. I've noticed here in Texas that 20 and 30 close up pretty early, just a couple of hours after sunset. 40 has been longhaul after about 22:00 local. I guess it's going to be a good Winter for the low bands.

73,
Kevin, WB5RUE

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: ori@juno.com (Ori K Mizrahi-Shalom)
Subject: [6289] Re: 38 Special MODS parts list
Message-ID: <19961212.081324.4375.0.ori@juno.com>

Hi Bill,

Yes, the great response caught all of us with a surprise...

Regarding the mods, I have published the keyer and will prepare this weekend a full description of the board, including size and where connectors and pots go. This is so people can start working on enclosures. I've already heard a few interesting ideas... I'll also include the list of parts for mods - except for the enhanced IF filter mod, which is much more involved. I expect people will play with it, but you must understand that crystals must be matched and the circuit must be re-tuned for a sharp response at the desired band-pass center. A sloppy implementation can easily degrade the receiver performance. Doug will include the only "exotic" part, an extra toroid, with the kit. Other parts for the "easy" mods are available from Radio Shack.

TNX

ORI AC6AN

> Ori, Great job on the 38 spec!!! I haven't seen this much
> excitement on the list since that guy tried to start a chain
> letter! Thanks also for your excellent writeup on debugging
> the 49er. It helped me out. Now to the crux of the biscuit--
> can you report on the list the parts needed for the RIT,
> improved filter, 5 watt upgrade, keyer etc so that we with
> lean junk boxes can get those parts on order while we
> await the arrival of the 38 special.
> It would be greatly appreciated. Best regards--Bill KB9KOL

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Bob Patten <n4bp@shadow.net>
Subject: [6305] Re: 50 States..FSFD update + we want >You<
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.961212155003.27337A-100000@hyper>

On Thu, 12 Dec 1996, Jim Hydzyk wrote:

> So if you love 80, or 30, 17 or 20M, and can put in an hour or three (all
> day if you like), just hit that reply icon and let me know what state you're
> in. I'll fire back the state's date for your calendar and get up with you
> before that date to see which bands and times YOU want to run.
>
Florida, can work any band(s)...

Bob Patten, N4BP
Plantation, FL

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: cooper@gmpvt.com (Tom Cooper)
Subject: [6306] Re: 50 States..FSFD update + we want >You<
Message-ID: <199612122116.QAA23603@web.gmpvt.com>

I'm QRV 160-10 from Vermont and am happy to sked.

By the way, I have a new callsign which combines 2 of my favorite hobbies.

Tom W1EAT (ex WA1GUV)

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Owen Quarles <k1oj@swbell.net>
Subject: [6254] Re: Computer CW
Message-ID: <32AF74EB.3DB0@swbell.net>

Howdy from Texas, Joel (I just love that Texas talk)

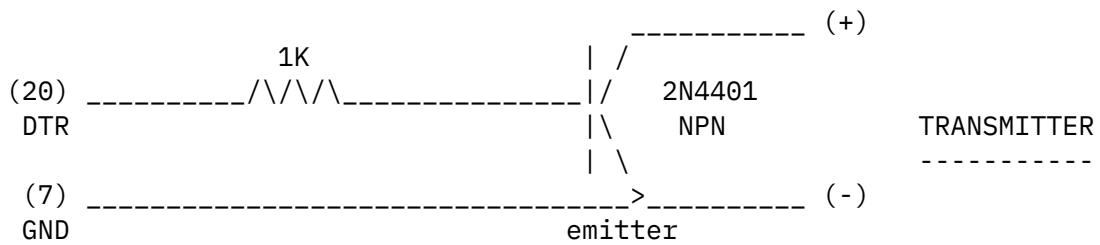
Here is the circuit I use to key my cw rigs from my computers. I use the same circuit on various types of computers, ie 133mhz pentium, 386 laptop, toshiba 8088, etc. There is available from a couple after market sources, prefabricated interface cables. The draw back with these is that they include a second line for you to plug in a set of paddles. The problem is that the computer sometimes causes a slight delay between the pressing of the character and the actual keying of the xmitter. I find this throws off my 'fist' and it is really distracting. I prefer to simply use a 'Y' adapter at the xmitter key input and plug in the output of the keyer. Two things to keep in mind, one.. if your rig has a built in keyer, it must be disabled, two...note that the cable is different depending on the port selection, comm or lpt. This interface will work with all the popular logging programs such as NA CT EQF etc. One note on RFI...Buy a connector that has a metal cover and place all of the components inside. This will help prevent 'lock up' caused by RFI. Enjoy it!

CU---OJ---K10J

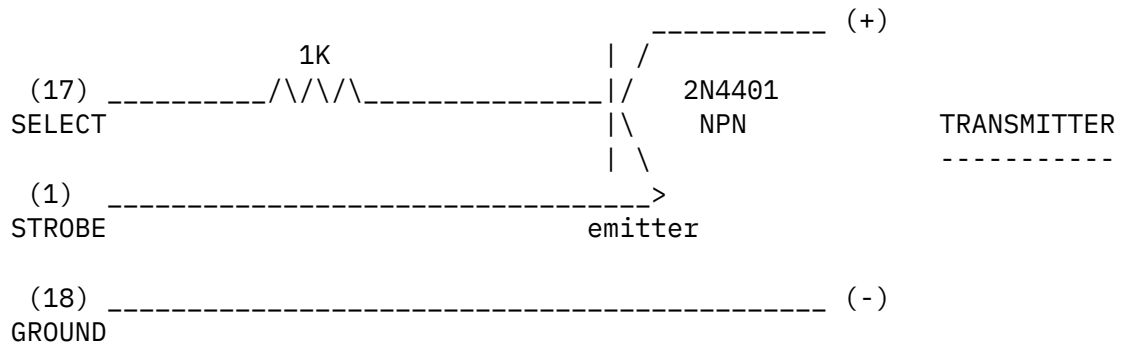
QRP-L 732

HOUSTON, TX.

DB25 -- COM port



DB25 -- LPT port



From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
 From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
 Subject: [6280] Re: errata
 Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.961212070550.28138G-1000000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

Terry Northup is Terry Littlefield, and Terry is and always has been (since days at Ham Radio) a skilled and talented editor who also happens to be a lady and Rick Littlefield's wife (this last came post Ham Radio days.)

Terry has an e-mail address: KA1STC@aol.com. Rick also has an aol account under his call.

Now I may be in real trouble if the volume of e-mail to them grows to the level of interfering with their work. Terry edits Com Quart and (I believe) the CQ VHF magazine from their home in NH via computer link to the Hicksville offices of CQ. Kind of nice tradition, since Ham Radio was also a NH production. It appears that while novices in search of WAS believe that NH has no hams, the truth is that NH has snow hams. If a reply to you is not quick in coming, it is likely the Rick and Terry are

out cross country skiing.

Hope the info part of this is useful and that the rest starts a grand myth.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [6312] Re: Explanation fo Solar Indices
Message-ID: <199612122224.WAA17551@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

James Duffey hasn't bought a new Handbook in some time.
:-) The newest issue, 1997, lists for \$38 US. Now available
at most ham stores or direct from the ARRL. Everyone on
the list should have one that was printed in the last 3 years
since the major redo. IMHO. A buck well spent.

James, a good short synopsis well written on the spots. H-Alpha
pics on the web show that the spots that were around 20 days ago
are back in view. 20 days ago they were centered in the sphere,
now they are about a 1/4 of the way from the edge. Watch the
flux values climb daily.

FYI

SIG

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) WAS 40m/30m/20m=49/49/50
EMPS QS0s=109 STATES(w/c)=34/2 DX=0

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: lve1@inel.gov (Larry V East)
Subject: [6290] RE: Friday the 13th Fox
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19961212164750.331f85a6@eloi>

On 10 Dec 1996 20:13:04 -0800 (PST), Cam Hartford wrote:

>

>Personal scheduling forces me to change my stint to Thursday night. I'll be

>on from 0300 to 0500, which translates to 7 PM to 9PM, Left Coast time.
>Frequency on or about 7040, probably leaning a bit to the low side to avoid
>prevailing SSB. Fingers crossed that the neighborhood QRN generator takes
>the night off.

>

Thanks ahellofa lot for the "early warning", Cam! I wasted about 40 minutes
of my "bench time" looking for you last night. Finally decided that you must
have either forgotten or changed your sked since neither fox nor hounds were
heard.

Not all of us live in front of our computers all day/night just waiting for
email to arrive... so if you foxes would post schedule changes at least one
day in advance, it would be greatly appreciated. :-)

72, Larry W1HUE/7

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Bill Myers <bmyers@destin.nfds.net>
Subject: [6316] RE: Friday the 13th Fox
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19961212174702.0a5fabe4@destin.nfds.net>

At 09:47 AM 12/12/96 -0700, Larry V East wrote:

>Thanks ahellofa lot for the "early warning", Cam! I wasted about 40
>minutes of my "bench time" looking for you last night. Finally
>decided that you must have either forgotten or changed your sked
>since neither fox nor hounds were heard.

>

>Not all of us live in front of our computers all day/night just waiting
>for email to arrive... so if you foxes would post schedule changes at
>least one day in advance, it would be greatly appreciated. :-)

In Cam's defense, he posted it 2 days in advance. I received it on the 10th.

72/73

--

Bill Myers KK4KF Grid - EM60rk
FISTS#2390 QRP-L#755 ARCI#9282 scQRP#42 CQC#386
Snail Mail P. O. Box 178 Shalimar, FL 32579
e-mail <bmyers@destin.nfds.net>
homepage <http://destin.nfds.net/~bmyers/>
 (Reptiles/Emergency Services/Amateur Radio)
CHECK OUT THE FISTS INTERNATIONAL CW CLUB U. S. HOMEPAGE

<http://n9nvv.qrp.com/~fists> (That's N 9 N V V)

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Dale LeDoux <dledoux@laci.net>
Subject: [6241] Re: Info on the Sierra . . .
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19961211190453.3a473a90@laci.net>

At 15:02 12/11/96 PST, you wrote:

>
>
> Hi all,
>
> Could someone tell me where I could find all of the errata on the
> Sierra radio before i begin building it?

>
>
> Thanks es 72 de Mike W1DRY

> P.S.

> Great band opening on 10 Wednesday nite!!!!

>
>
Mike--

1. The errata section in front of the manual seemed to do it for me.
2. Pay attention to the orientation of those itty-bitty IC's
3. Don't try to troubleshoot at 11PM
4. Winding toroids is mind-numbing

Seriously, the kit's a hoot to build...enjoy! the rig is pure joy to operate.

72--

Dale LeDoux
Sulphur, Louisiana
Bath Electrical Systems
Power Specialists -- 480 V to 230 KV
KD5QI -- QRP-L #602

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: "Ten-Tec Inc." <sales@tentec.com>
Subject: New QRP transceiver

>
>I just saw the write up in the December issue of CQ magazine about the new
>TEN-TEC QRP rig. It looks great, and I plan to order one this week.
>
>But, one thing about it does bother me. The article states the bandwidth is
>1 kHz. Isn't that kinda wide for a crowded CW band at night, such as 40
>meters. I wonder if an audio filter is forthcoming as an accessory?
>
>Jim, K5ROV

Hi Jim (and interested Ten-Tec fans):

Yes, the 1 kHz 4 pole crystal filter is a little wider than the 250 Hz or 500 Hz filtering we are all accustomed to for CW. Adding a 250 or 500 Hz filter would have added additional cost, and it was important to us to offer good value as well as performance in the new QRP kits. We do not have any accessories immediately planned for the little rigs (except for the already available 1553 keyer kit), but an audio filter certainly would be a good choice for an add-on. The 40 meter version should be ready in the next two weeks. 30 meters will be the next one, followed by 20 and 80.

Thanks
Scott Robbins W4PA
Ten-Tec

--
FAQ on WWW: <http://www.contesting.com/tentecfaq.html>
Submissions: tentec@contesting.com
Administrative requests: tentec-REQUEST@contesting.com
Problems: w9tw@contesting.com
Sponsored by: Akorn Access, Inc & KM9P

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: "Gary M. Diana, Sr." <gmdsr@vivanet.com>
Subject: [6258] Re: PIC Training
Message-ID: <32AF7AC2.78AB@vivanet.com>

Bill (and anyone else interested):

Check out the Microchip web site:

<http://www.microchip.com/>

You'll find spec sheets for their entire line of microcontrollers, data books (in pdf/acrobat-readable form), and application notes.

If you don't have web access, you can always try calling your local Microchip Rep. To find a rep in your area, call Microchip at 602-786-7200. Ask them for their CD which has all their PIC data on it. Also on their webpage, you'll find a schedule for the Microchip Seminars. Usually for free, you can spend 1/2 day learning about PICs, and have a chance to obtain data books, etc.

To work with a PIC you minimally need a PC, PIC programmer, and software that drives the programmer. If you buy Microchip's low end programmer (\$200 - sometimes available cheaper at their seminar), you can download not only the programmer software, but a pretty nice integrated development environment for free, off their website. Software updates are free and seem to keep up with their ever growing line of micros.

There are alternatives to buying Microchip's programming hardware; Parallax (www.parallax.com) sells a programmer, and I think there is even an application note on the Microchip site which describes how to build a PIC programmer using, what else, a PIC! Do a web search on "PIC" and you'll see a variety of programmers available, cheap.

What chip you decide to use will dictate how development is done. The Atomic Keyer and TiCK use PICs which are available with UV erasable memory and with One Time Programmable (OTP) memory. Use the expensive (~\$20) UV-erasable chip for development and testing. When you're sure the code's right, you buy and program the OTP parts (<\$10, depending on the part). I believe the KC-1 uses a PIC which has EEPROM (Electrically Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory). In this case, this chip can be erased in the programmer, and doesn't require that the programmer put the chip in a UV eraser before programming it again. So the same part used for development is what you'd use in the end-product.

Hope this helps give a few people a start in what I find to be a lot of fun.

73 for now.

- Gary N2JGU

gmdsr@vivanet.com

Embedded Research
<http://www.vivanet.com/~gmdsr>

> Bill Jones wrote:
>
> Ladies and Gentlemen,
>
> Once again I find myself falling behind the technology power curve. I
> marvel at the TiCK keyer, the KC-1 and KC-2 plus all the other devices using
> programable chips. Can someone suggest books or other training materials
> oriented toward self-study?
> =====
> Bill Jones - KD7S <><
> Sanger, California
> Reply to kd7s@psnw.com
> =====

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: gsurrency@juno.com (Gary L Surrency)
Subject: [6267] Re: PIC Training
Message-ID: <19961211.221013.9766.2.gsurrency@juno.com>

Thanks Gary (of Embedded Research!

Microchip's facility is about 3 blocks from where I live. Now I will try to see if I can take part in one of their seminars on the PIC!

PS. Intel is just down the same street from Microchip's plant, and there is a Motorola plant just North of me, right next to the VLSI plant in the ASU Research park! It's starting to be a "little silicon valley" around here!

vy 72,

Gary Surrency AB7MY
S&S TAC-1 and ARK30
QRP-L #571 Chandler, AZ (near Phoenix)Grid Square DM43BH

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: chuckolson@juno.com (Chuck Olson)

Subject: [6272] Re: PIC Training
Message-ID: <19961212.003500.4863.1.chuckolson@juno.com>

On Wed, 11 Dec 1996 17:29:34 -0800 (PST) kd7s@psnw.com (Bill Jones)
writes:

>programmable chips. Can someone suggest books or other training
>materials
>oriented toward self-study?

Bill -

The book that I used to learn about microcontroller programming is
available for FREE on the internet. The book is in the Acrobat format
with those neat hypertext links (a .pdf file, about 1.3 mb, 352 pages).

It is called: M68HC05 Applications Guide

The book deals with the Motorola MC68HC705C8 microcontroller - this is
the chip that is used in the Super CMOS II & III keyers. The book itself
is a fairly complete intro to microcontrollers for the beginner and uses
a thermostat as an example project.

I don't know the exact URL to the book but it's on the Motorola CSIC web
site - you can start looking on: www.design-net.com

I think the Motorola file name / part number for the book is M68HC05AG/AD

If you can't find it, let me know

The book is also available in printed form from either Motorola or mail
order places like JAMECO.

Best Regards,
Chuck Olson
WB9KZY
Jackson Harbor Press
Washington Island, WI

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Tim Ahrens <tahrens@engserv.sps.mot.com>
Subject: [6288] Re: PIC Training
Message-ID: <3.0.16.19961212104735.098fc418@engserv.sps.mot.com>

If anyone wants a copy of this book, please e-mail me your postal address, &
I'll send one out. (no charge)

Thanks,

Tim W5FN

> It is called: M68HC05 Applications Guide

>

>The book deals with the Motorola MC68HC705C8 microcontroller - this is

>Best Regards,

>Chuck Olson

>WB9KZY

>Jackson Harbor Press

>Washington Island, WI

>

>

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996

From: "Robert D. Haslach" <rhaslach@CapAccess.org>

Subject: [6245] Re: QRP Computer

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.961211200937.2110A-1000000@cap1.capaccess.org>

On Tue, 10 Dec 1996, David Feldman wrote:

> >A few (several?) weeks ago, someone posted a note about the pocket computer
> >he was using to do logging, store info, skeds, freqs, etc. I don't remember
> >who posted it but I'd appreciate hearing from him. I'm thinking of asking
> >Santa for something like that and it sounded like a pretty nifty little
> >unit. So, if the person who posted the original would drop me a line, I'd
> >appreciate it, or if someone else could point me toward the relevant
> >archive, that would be appreciated too.

>

> Well, if you define "qrp" as compact, power efficient, minimal to do the
> job, etc etc etc then I have to nominate the Hewlett Packard Omnibook 300,
> which isn't quite pocket sized, but does everything someone would need and
> runs off four AA cells if need be. I always kinda thought of it as a
> "qrp computer"...

>

> 73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

>

>

For my part, the Hewlett Packard 95LX is the QRP computer. MS-DOS 3.3,
a communications program an RS 232 port, Lotus 123 2.2, and a flat file

database app called the "telephone book."
and runs on 2 AA batteries. As the 95LX is now 3 generations "old", you
can pick one up for a relative song
Regards, N3FRT in WDC
Robert D. Haslach
Bye

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: DYARNES@aol.com
Subject: [6270] Re: QRP Computer
Message-ID: <961212005322_1852985774@emout06.mail.aol.com>

I think you may be referring to the Psion 3a which is, indeed, a powerful
pocket sized computer. Unfortunately, you missed the really good deal where
you could get this little marvel for about 35% of normal cost (\$175 vs. about
\$500). This was a "clearance" sale at Office Depot (plus a rebate of \$75),
apparently to make way for some new models that have just come out. There is
now a 3c (which is backlit and a few other nice features) and a more
moderately priced model called a Siena. The 3a is still out there though,
and I think the rebate offer is still in effect for a bit longer.

Anyway, they are great computers, even at the higher price. Lots of software
is available on several websites, including a logging program. Some really
spiffy and very usable stuff is out there. These computers link to a PC, and
I know there is now Email capability but I haven't progressed to that--yet!

There are several other models and brands out there, but I doubt they are any
better than, if as good as, the Psion 3a or 3c. However, you should check out
the new Compaq and Casio palmtops that I have seen advertised recently. They
use Microsoft's new operating system for this type of computer.

Good luck!

72 de David W7AQK

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: AE0Q / V31RY <v31ry@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [6282] Re: QRP computer
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19961212061834.2acf5bea@popd.ix.netcom.com>

Joel wa1qvm asked:

>Can someone post the circuit diagram used for keying a TX through a

>serial port of one of these small computers.

>

>thanks,

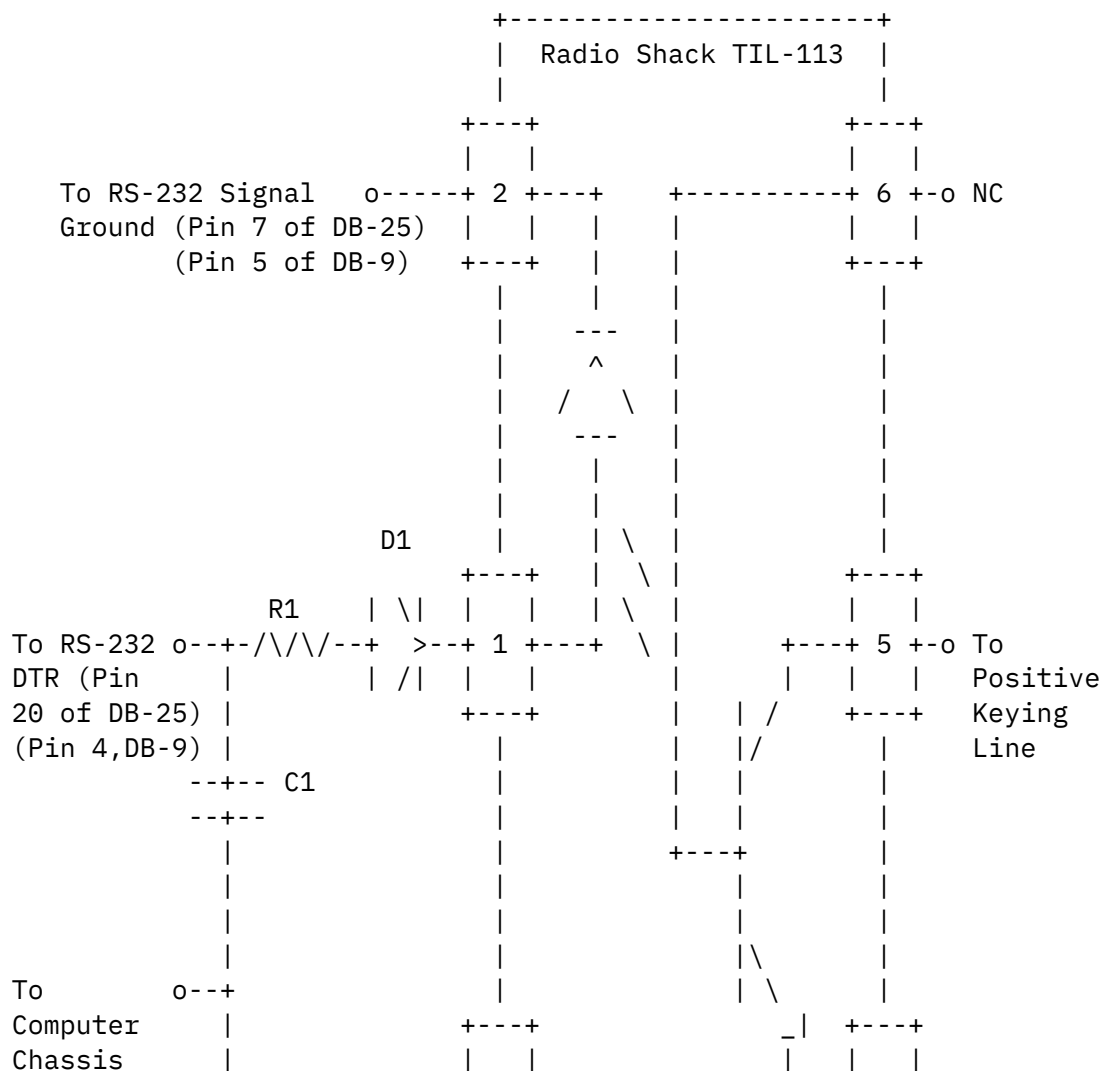
>

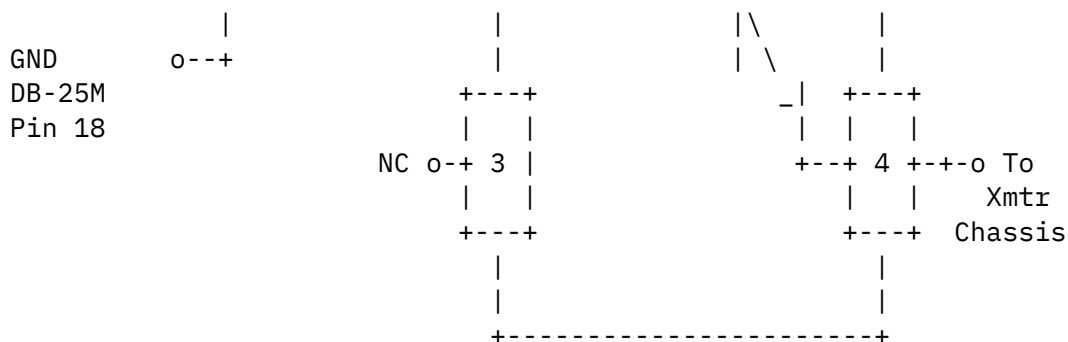
>/joel walqvm (concord, ma)

>

Here is a circuit for safely keying transmitters from the computer ports. It uses an opto-isolator IC, and there is no direct DC connection to the PC from the transmitter. Stray RF can wipe out serial and parallel ports pretty fast!

This circuit can be used by 'CT' and LOGic-4 to key the transmitter from a serial port:





D1 = 1N914 or 1N4148
 R1 = 1K Ohm, 1/4 Watt
 C1 = 0.01 Microfarad, 50 Volt
 NC = no connection

- 1) Note: Voltage on pins 4 and 5 of TIL-113 should be kept below 20 volts, and the current draw should not exceed 100 ma.
- 2) The SELECT INPUT is the LPT signal name, it is really a PC output

These same pinouts work with other logging software, but I only mentioned the two that I use and know for sure will match the schematic.

Good luck! -- Glenn

Duct Tape is like the Force: It has a light side, and a dark side,
and it holds the Universe together.

AE0Q / V31RY ex: GM5BKC, ZB2WZ, SV0WY, WA0VPK
 v31ry@ix.netcom.com -- ARRL LM, QCWA LM, NCVA --

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
 From: "Richard Hieber" <Richard.Hieber@rrze.uni-erlangen.de>
 Subject: [6293] Re: QRP Computer
 Message-ID: <64F812322@isis.rrze.uni-erlangen.de>

On the subject of QRP computers, have a look into the Usenet newsgroups comp.sys.handheld or comp.sys.palmtop. These are very busy groups and I enjoy reading them from time to time. Similar to our QRP hobby the challenge there is how to get the most out of a small package ;)

Personally, I am not yet into the very small gadgets. For continued enjoyment, I have to be able to touchtype. For now, the Olivetti Quaderno is my notetaking device when I'm on the road. This is an XT type A5 sized subnotebook with 1 MB RAM and a 20MB harddisk. It's been discontinued a long time ago and now is only available on the second hand market, with some luck. Have spare parts? - I'm interested ;-)

The direction in which the development is moving nowadays seems to be "WinCE" (a modified MS-Windows, kept mainly in ROM). Now that's a telling name for an OS...

72,

Richard

--

Richard Hieber, DL8MFQ/AA8CP

EMAIL: Richard.Hieber@rrze.uni-erlangen.de

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996

From: jbartac@max.state.ia.us (jbartac)

Subject: [6302] RE: QRP Email Overwhelming!

Message-ID: <32B07A57.A30@max.state.ia.us>

Larry East wrote:

> The size of the QRP-L digests this week have been running between 150KB > and 250KB --

Because the QRP-L has been increasing in size and number of postings, and because I am using my computer at work, I have repented of subscribing to the list. They are watching everything I send or receive, which is as it should be. In the interest of efficiency I set my mail to postpone, and read small parts of the archive as time permits.

I still enjoy the list, but have greatly curtailed my use of it. Now I have much more time for my job duties; I'm being paid to work not gab.

72,

Jerry L. Bartachek KD0CA

Washington, IA

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996

From: KFGlynn@aol.com

Subject: [6283] Re: QRP rig in tool box

Message-ID: <961212084919_1220930016@emout16.mail.aol.com>

Hi Gang,

I've been using a tool box to carry my portable QRP station for about a year. All is well, but I never thought about installing the equipment into the box vs. just a carrying case. Sounds good. Has anyone done this?

I liked Bill Jones' KD7S Camper's Portable Hamshack idea - making an enclosure and working space out of wood.

One thing I like about the separate tool box - everything goes in before the fact and I use a checklist to make sure I don't forget anything.

72 Kevin N2T0

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Bob Lombardi <blombard@iu.net>
Subject: [6314] Re: QRP-L digest 572
Message-ID: <199612122337.SAA05418@bb.iu.net>

>
>Date: Wed, 11 Dec 1996 13:49:26 -0600
>From: Charles Cashion <ccashion@spdmail.spd.dsccc.com>
>To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
>Cc: ccashion@spdmail.spd.dsccc.com
>Subject: [6224] errata
>Message-ID: <199612111949.NAA27891@spd.dsccc.com>

>
>Guys,
>Sorry for the bandwidth. Maybe the reply should be taken off line.
>
>I think I just found a couple of errors in W2GOM's article in the
>latest issue of Communications Quarterly (vol.6, no.4, Fall 1996).
>
>Thought I would see if W2GOM had an email address, so I looked him
>up on QRZ. ... No luck. ... Well, the editor is Terry Littlefield,
>and C.Q. lists his call as KA1STC. Maybe he has an email address.
>SURPRISE! KA1STC is issued to Terry Northup!

Well, that was her name before she got married, if I recall. She edited a couple of articles I had in Ham Radio (tells you how long ago it was).

>
>Now what?
>

>Thanks in advance for any help.

>

>Charles Cashion, w5isz, Plano (Dallas is our closest suburb) Texas

>ARRL NorTex#116 NorCal#1320 QRP-L#76

>

What errors did you find in GOM's article? I have it on my desk at work to go through, but the latest "firedrill" has kept me from even starting it.

73,

Bob

Bob Lombardi WB4EHS in Melbourne, FL blombard@iu.net

blombard@freenet.fsu.edu <http://www.freenet.tlh.fl.us/~blombard>

Windows is based on the idea that it's harder to type "copy filename from to" than Open Windows Explorer, click on the folder you want, click on the file you want, click on edit, click on cut, go back to the folder list, click on the new folder then click on edit, and click on paste.

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996

From: Stan Goldstein <stan@cruzio.com>

Subject: [6255] Re: Signal Generator

Message-ID: <32AF7430.2F73@cruzio.com>

QRPDave@aol.com wrote:

>

> I enjoy building qrp rigs, and with the completion of my latest rig, a TenTec
> 10M Direct Conversion Receiver, I see that in all my lack of knowledge about
> such things, I could use a signal generator to tune the thing up? What does
> a second hand one run?

I bought an old Eico 324 for 2 bux at a flea market.

Tunes from 150kc to 435 mc . (note mc =mhz in olden days)

Not calibrated and not real stable but works for hf .

Also you can use another ham rig to provide necessary signals .

Stan N6XU

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: gsurrency@juno.com (Gary L Surrency)
Subject: [6249] Re: Ten-Tec QRP rigs
Message-ID: <19961211.184334.9854.0.gsurrency@juno.com>

I wish Ten-Tec would put something out about these new rigs on their home page. A lot of us might be interested in them if we knew what to expect.

I keep checking it and there's nothing new on it for the past several months. I just says "this page is under construction" and "let us know if you've seen our home page".

So, I guess we should let them know, "yes we have seen your home page, so what?" C'mon Ten-Tec, use the technology. We've got hams on here that are better at making their own home pages.

No flames, just an opinion, and you know what everybody says about those. I would just like to see one of the last remaining ham gear companies stay afloat, and not go out like HeathKit, Hammarlund, Globe, Hallicrafters, etc.etc.

On another topic:

Thanks Chuck for the netiquette reminder on this list. The great majority of us appreciate what we have here and don't want it trashed by needless personal assaults. You have my thanks and gratitude for creating a civilized list.

P.S. Everyone should read the FAQ on the QRP-L homepage if they haven't already.

vy 72 to all,

Gary Surrency AB7MY
S&S TAC-1 and ARK30
QRP-L #571 Chandler, AZ (near Phoenix)Grid Square DM43BH

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Bob Hirsch <bobh@p3.net>
Subject: [6256] Re: Ten-Tec QRP rigs
Message-ID: <3.0.32.19961211221142.00692b9c@p3.net>

At 20:49 12.11.96 EST, you wrote:

>I wish Ten-Tec would put something out about these new rigs on their home
>page. A lot of us might be interested in them if we knew what to expect.
>
>I keep checking it and there's nothing new on it for the past several
>months. I just says "this page is under construction" and "let us know if
>you've seen our home page".

Not true anymore, Gary. Ten-Tec page has been redone and is at a new URL:
<http://www.tentec.com>

Try it! You'll like it!

=====
73 de Bob, W3WZ in New Hope, PA

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
Subject: [6286] Re: Ten-Tec QRP rigs
Message-ID: <199612121411.HAA04657@dancris.com>

At 08:49 PM 12/11/96 EST, you wrote:

>I wish Ten-Tec would put something out about these new rigs on their home
>page. A lot of us might be interested in them if we knew what to expect.
>
>I keep checking it and there's nothing new on it for the past several
>months. I just says "this page is under construction" and "let us know if
>you've seen our home page".

>
>So, I guess we should let them know, "yes we have seen your home page, so
>what?" C'mon Ten-Tec, use the technology. We've got hams on here that are
>better at making their own home pages.

>
>No flames, just an opinion, and you know what everybody says about those.
>I would just like to see one of the last remaining ham gear companies
>stay afloat, and not go out like HeathKit, Hammarlund, Globe,
>Hallicrafters, etc.etc.

>
>
Ten-tec has a new url (<http://www.tentec.com>), but the page is still kinda
sparse. Nothing on the new kit, and not much on accessories, etc. Hopefully
they will fill it out soon. At lease it doesn't say it's still under
construction :^).

73,
Bob KI7MN

NorCal #1221 ARCI #8918 Qrp-l #271 CQC #274 AK QRP #30 ARRL

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Allen Jones <ajones@adsnet.com>
Subject: [6287] Re: Ten-Tec QRP rigs
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19961212153408.006b4c8c@adsnet.com>

I saw the photo in CQ and read the info that has been posted here but haven't seen much describing the circuit. Is this another design based on the NE602?

72/3 de Allen W9DZ
f/k/a K9DZE
Michigan City, IN

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Dan Hogan <dhhogan@lightside.com>
Subject: [6253] Re: To post or not to post
Message-ID: <3.0.16.19961211110853.31cfbf18@mail.lightside.com>

Laura:

Don't worry about it more than a .001 second. I'd guess who ever it was has not been on the internet very long ;^)

I didn't post my How I became...because I couldn't figure out how to make it more than a sentence long. Ham Radio fascinated me, bored me, then fascinated me again. 18 years between fascinations.

At 17:11 12/11/96 -0700, Laura Wrote

>Hi gang!

>

> I am really sick of this thread, and do not want to propagate it further,
>however, I have received a letter today from a list member that told me I
>should not have posted my story of How I Became A Ham. He found it did not
>relate to QRP and I had no business posting it on the list. [Snip]

72/73

Dan Hogan WA6PBY QRP-L #558, CQC #340, NorCal #1806, ARRL
dhhogan@lightside.com Lat. 34d 03.5'N Lon. 117d 56.0'W
Grid: OM84wc

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Rick Sealey <rsealey@InfoAve.Net>
Subject: [6273] Re: To post or not to post
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19961212064032.00966b70@mail.infoave.net>

Hello all and Season's Greetings...

I came in somewhat late this evening to check the email and was completely knocked back in my chair after reading Laura's posting. I just couldn't believe what I read. Surely I had gotten mail from the wrong list.

Every one of Laura's postings I have read have been top-notch and uniquely expressive. Her "How I Became a Ham" posting is my favorite. The events in her ham radio journey were quite entertaining and very well articulated. I'm sure we all wish we had the knack for expressing ourselves so well in print (and could spell as well, too.) She also showed us her true mettle and sense of propriety in not identifying her complainant, and later accepting the person's apology. I would say Laura is a class act and the group is privileged to have her as a member. I look forward to her next posting.

Rick
KI4PZ

>
>05:11 PM 12/11/96 -0700
>Hi gang!
>
> I am really sick of this thread, and do not want to propagate it further,
>however, I have received a letter today from a list member that told me I
>should not have posted my story of How I Became A Ham. He found it did not
>relate to QRP and I had no business posting it on the list. He suggested I
>find another list to belong to if I wanted to tell everyone my "personal
>stuff". I did not want to further embarrass this gentleman by quoting him
>or naming him, but I was very upset from reading his letter. I don't know
>why he chose to attack me...since so many of us responded to that thread,
>and we obviously all enjoyed it. I want to take this time to personally
>thank the many of you that responded to my request of what we may and may
>not post. Thanks to all of you, I will not let this gentleman's opinion
>keep me from participating. I suggested he write to Chuck if he had a
>complaint. If any of you also received a similiar letter after posting
>your story of "How I Became A Ham", please write to me personally.
>

> Thanks, everyone!
>
> Laura
> KJ7UN
> QRP-1 # 790
>
>

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Jeff Grudin <grudin@pacific.vdbs.com>
Subject: [6244] RE: tool box QRP
Message-ID: <32AF3107.1DA6@pacific.vdbs.com>

High guys,
I've always looked at those plastic ammo boxes in the sporting goods store.
They are about the right size to fit a rig, small tuner, antenna, and paddles. They seal tight and are waterproof. Reasonable cheap and orange so you won't lose it, Hi Hi.

You could probaby fit one of those new Wilderness mini logs in there too.
--

--
73 de Jeff AC6KW
grudin@vdbs.com

QRP-L #16	Private Practice : Companion Animals and Exotics
Norcal QRP #1292	Ocean Animal Clinic / Cat Clinic of Santa Cruz
California	Santa Cruz,

QRP'ers do it with less energy (but lot's of enthusiasm)!

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: okasb@rex.mtv.gtegsc.com (Bob Okas)
Subject: [6263] Re: TS-570D initial impressions
Message-ID: <9612120420.AA22306@rex.mtv.gtegsc.com>

Mike,

I just read your post and I'm glad your happy with the new rig. After seeing an ad in QST, I just had to go and investigate this puppy myself. So, last Friday I went over to the HRO and ran through a relatively quick checkout. While my initial impressions were highly positive, I started to take a more critical look. I noticed the TS-450SAT nearby with a significantly lower price tag. Hmmm, since the 570 does DSP filtering only on the audio, one could conceivably buy a 450 and a Timewave outboard box and have a better setup. Of course, integrating all of these features into the 570 does make for a level of convenience you couldn't obtain with the separates.

One of my concerns is the limited number of filters available. I suppose the 500 Hz filter, coupled with the DSP back-end would be more than adequate for most uses. But, I still would have liked to see more filter positions.

In my 'audition' I really liked the sound of the receiver with the DSP in NR1. It really cut the noise on a weak 20m CW signal and made copying a pleasure. I'm not to impressed with NR2 because it introduces too many artifacts that distract me.

The so-called "line-enhancer" mode appears to be a typical Widrow-Hoff LMS filter that builds a matched filter around signals with high self-correlation, like CW and SSB. It modifies the signal in the smallest way. This filter's audible signature is the characteristic swishing sound.

In NR2, I suspect Kenwood is using spectral subtraction. This process involves taking an FFT of the audio signal, which converts the time-domain signal into the frequency domain with discrete frequency bins. The filtering process examines the frequency bins and tries to make intelligent decisions about the signal spectrum. The bins determined to contain signal spectrum are retained while the noise bins are nulled. An inverse FFT is taken of the filtered bins which converts the signal back to the time domain. This method can also be very effective, but adds random, low-level tones when the algorithm estimates the spectrum incorrectly.

In my work, I've implemented both forms of filters. Subjectively, I like the LMS better.

Anyway, congrats on your new rig! From the sales brochure, it's built like a brick pizzeria!

Bob - W3CD

Subject: Re: TS-570D initial impressions

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: rhight@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [6264] Re: TS-570D initial impressions
Message-ID: <199612112344.QAA17587@primenet.com>

At 02:46 PM 12/11/96 -0800, Michael A. Gipe wrote:

>

>(snip)

>My first impressions are very positive. The IC735 is up for sale. I don't
>need it anymore.

>

Nice review. It answered a lot of questions I was thinking abt asking.

What do you want for the 735? I need a good all-mode scvr that will go 'way
down' to qrp levels.

72/73 de Roger N7KT Mesa, AZ Grid DM43cj

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [6281] Re: TS-570D initial impressions
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.961212072749.28138I-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

Many thanks to Mike for his very thorough run down on the 570.

His notes on the automatic ATU were especially interesting. There are numerous automatic ATUs built into rigs and also available as independent units. I wonder if anyone is set up to evaluate some of these for the efficiency of the settings they settle on. For any match with 3-or-more element networks, there are normally multiple settings that will effect a match. These may be limited by the use of fixed value components instead

of continuously variable components at some points in the network. Not all settings are equally efficient (or, in other words, less lossy). In a manually tuned ATU with continuously variable components, one can aim for settings that yield the lowest losses. I wonder whether the automatic ATUs aim similarly or settle for any match.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
Message-ID: <961212001259_1153911644@emout09.mail.aol.com>
Subject: Re: VFO ramblings

Bill-

>>If you build your own PWM function, you can also drive
> the integrator with up/down pulses of various widths, corresponding
> to various tuning step sizes. This corresponds to a QSY condition,
> so the loop needs to be re-initialized at the new frequency.
> (BTW- coding your own PWM eliminates the need to specify one of
> the high
> pin-count PIC chips.)
>

>>I'm not quite following - up-down pulses?

suppose you had a capacitor out there with say 2 Volts of charge on it. If there were no leakage the charge (and voltage) would stay there forever. Add a FET buffer and you can read or use the capacitor voltage without disturbing it. How to make the voltage go up or down a little?- connect it *briefly* to ground or a positive supply through a resistance. If you have a driver circuit that only has '1' (high) and '0' (low) states you have to do a PWM and follow it with a very long (30 sec) time constant to average out the PWM fundamental. If you have a driver circuit with 3 states available ('0', '1', and 'off', i.e., disconnected), though, a single pulse from this driver will change the capacitor voltage upward ('1') or downward ('0'). As soon as the pulse is over the capacitor voltage stays at its new value (ideally, forever). If you make the charging pulses longer the change is bigger (the capacitor gains or loses more charge). Routine frequency stabilization pulses will be only a few microseconds for a 1 sec time constant. Initialization is no problem- there's no switching of time constants needed. I initialize by outputting 3-4 seconds of square wave (50% duty cycle) to bias the capacitor at 2.5V (half the PIC supply voltage).

The PIC output port connects right to a (1M) series resistor which connects to a 1 uF monolithic cap. I follow the RC network with a JFET follower, whose output is then a range of about 1-6 volts based on RC network charge.

The output of this follower is the bias supply for a varicap.

Hope this helps.

73, Dave

"Owner- and grunted employee- Small Wonder Labs"

whattya' think? ;-)

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996

From: talljazz@teleport.com (Dan Presley)

Subject: [6299] Re: Voice on WARC bands?

Message-ID: <v01530512aed5f0cc5901@[206.163.124.155]>

>From time to time as propagation permits I hear some VKs on SSB in the upper portions around 10135-150;are they 'legal' on 30M?

Dan N7CQR

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996

From: "Carcia, Joe, NJ1Q" <jcarcia@arrl.org>

Subject: RE: W1AW sked changes

I received thsi reply to my query:

>I would like to know it the cw practice and bulletin schedule

>changes are permanent.

At this point in time, the schedule change is permanent.

I would like to point out that if you feel this change deals with a softened support of the Morse Code, this is certainly not the case. The ARRL policy is clearly in support of the Morse Code requirement for HF operators. The change in the morning schedule in no way

reflects any attitude change towards CW. We will of course, continue with the 23 hrs/wk of 18 wpm code bulletins.

As you well know, we are increasing ARRL presence in Washington and on the international scene. That's where the battles over the future of Amateur Radio will take place, and that's where we must win. A small redirecting of resources will allow for us to continue to protect and defend Amateur Radio.

Thank you very much for writing, for your support, AND for tuning in to our bulletins and code practice!

73,

Joe, NJ1Q
W1AW Station Manager

-73- de N3UVR, Chris Doherty
QTH 715 Monroe Ave.
Scranton, PA 18510
QRP-L #382 FISTS #2347
<http://users.scranton.com/~doherty>

From owner-qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: "Michael A. Gipe" <mgipe@reliablemeters.com>
Subject: [6238] Re: Wed.Fox?
Message-ID: <199612120004.SAA01065@multi13.netcomi.com>

Cam moved to tomorrow (Thursday local time)

> From: Bob Hirsch <bobh@p3.net>
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
> Subject: Re: Wed.Fox?
> Date: Wednesday, December 11, 1996 3:57 PM
>
> At 15:52 12.11.96 -0800, you wrote:
> >Am I asleep at the switch, or is there supposed to be a fox on tonight
> >(0300-500UTC 12/12) local date Dec.11? Was there a post on here about a
> >change in date?
> >Dan N7CQR
> >

>
>
> If you are sleeping, so am I Dan. I just checked my schedule and I have
> the same question.
>
> So, Cam, where are you? You running like a fox tonight?
>
>
> =====
> 73 de Bob, W3WZ in New Hope, PA

From owner-qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 12 18:01:31 1996
From: Bill Myers <bmyers@destin.nfds.net>
Subject: [6239] Re: Wed.Fox?
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19961211181030.09afa1d4@destin.nfds.net>

At 03:52 PM 12/11/96 -0800, Dan Presley wrote:
>Am I asleep at the switch, or is there supposed to be a fox on tonight
>(0300-500UTC 12/12) local date Dec.11? Was there a post on here about a
>change in date?

Cam posted a message that he would have to change his night to Thur night
(FRI the 13th UTC). Same time from 7.040 down.

72/73

Bill KK4KF